Claims:

1. A method of expanding tubing, the method comprising:

locating an expansion tool in a section of tubing to be expanded;

applying fluid pressure to said section of tubing to create a fluid pressure expansion f force and induce a hoop stress in said section of tubing; and

applying a mechanical expansion force to said tubing section via said expansion tool, the combined fluid pressure expansion force and mechanical expansion force being selected to be sufficient to induce expansion of the tubing.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising locating the tubing downhole.

3. The method of claim 1, comprising inducing plastic deformation of the tubing.

4. The method of claim 1, comprising selecting the fluid pressure to create a hoop stress in said tubing section representing at least 25% of the yield stress of the tubing.

5. The method of claim 4, comprising selecting the fluid pressure to create a hoop stress in said tubing section representing at least 40% of the yield stress of the tubing.

6. The method of claim 5, comprising selecting the fluid pressure to create a hoop stress in said tubing section representing at least 50% of the yield stress of the tubing.

7. The method of claim 6, comprising selecting the fluid pressure to create a hoop stress in said tubing section representing at least 60% of the yield stress of the tubing.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising utilising fluid utilised to create the fluid pressure expansion force as a lubricant between the expansion tool and the tubing.

9. The method of claim 1, comprising providing the expansion tool is the

form of an expansion die and running the die axially through the tubing section.

10. The method of claim 1, comprising providing the expansion tool in the form of an expansion member carrying a plurality of rolling expansion members rotatable about axes which are substantially perpendicular to the tubing axis, and running the expansion member axially through the tubing section.

11. The method of claim 1, comprising providing the expansion tool in the form of a rolling element expander having at least one expansion member in rolling contact with the tubing wall, and rotating the expander in the tubing section.

12. The method of claim 1, comprising utilising fluid to actuate the expansion tool.

13. The method of claim 12, comprising providing a hydraulic drive motor to rotate the expansion tool, the motor utilising fluid providing the fluid pressure expansion force as a drive fluid.

14. The method of claim 1, comprising providing the expansion tool in combination with a seal assembly providing a fluid-tight seal with unexpanded tubing ahead of the expansion tool.

15. The method of claim 14, comprising applying said fluid pressure to the seal assembly to drive the expansion tool axially relative to the tubing.

16. A method of expanding a tubular, comprising:
applying fluid pressure to an inside surface of the tubular;
applying a mechanical force to the inside surface of the tubular; and
expanding the tubular with the combination of the fluid pressure and the mechanical force.

17. A method of increasing an outer diameter and inner diameter of a tubular, comprising:
applying fluid pressure to an inside surface of the tubular;
applying a mechanical force to the inside surface of the tubular; and

increasing the outer diameter and the inner diameter of the tubular with the combination of the fluid pressure and the mechanical force.